Nov 1973

2p

The MESSENGER

THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

St. Stephen's, Milnrow & Littleborough

November 1973

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter the work on the interior decoration at the Manse is in its final stages, and the people who have been involved in this long drawn out project will breath a sigh of relief, and say "Thank God"; for the labourers have been few and the task a little greater than we first thought.

May I offer my sincere thanks to all who have been involved in this work.

Our new minister, the Revd. Alfred Nash, will be moving into the Manse on Friday, the 2nd November, and I trust all our efforts will be acceptable to him and Mrs. Nash.

Just a word about the Induction Service on Wednesday, the 14th November. I trust this event will be well supported by the members and friends of our two churches. We shall also have with us members from our sister churches in the N.W. Manchester District, and the service will be conducted by the Moderator of the N.W. Province Revd. D.G. Stewart.

The Revd. A. Nash will conduct his first service as our minister on November 18th - 11.00 am. at Milnrow, when I hope once again you will make every effort to be present.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have given me personally, their support during the period of the vacancy, and trust this same effort and enthusiasm will continue for a long time to come.

Sincere Wishes,

Allan Roberts

With
Joy
and
Thanksgiving

* * * *

We
extend
a warm
welcome

* * * *

to

Our New Minister

REVEREND A.V.J. NASH B.A.

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All members and friends of the
United Reformed Churches at

St. Stephen's
Milnrow & Littleborough

are cordially invited to attend the
INDUCTION OF REVD. A.V.J. NASH B.A.,
to the Joint Pastorate
On Wednesday, 14th November at 7.30 pm.
at St. Stephen's

HOLY BAPTISM

On Sunday, 28th October at St. Stephen's:
Revd. T. Vause officiating.

CLEMENT STEPHEN, son of Mr. & Mrs. Jones, of 63 Shaw Road, Newhey.

Jesus said: "Let the children come to me! Do not try to stop them; for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

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MARRIAGE

On Saturday, 27th October at St. Stephen's:
Revd. D. Whitehead officiating.

GEORGE FRANCIS HODGKINSON of 7 Selby Close,
and
MARGARET SIMPSON, of 25 Albert St., Milnrow.

Congratulations and Best Wishes!

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THANK YOU -

-from Mrs. ETHEL BEATTIE of 48 Charles Lane, Milnrow, to all members and friends of both churches for their flowers, cards, and good wishes, which she received during her long stay in hospital. Also for the visits which made her grateful to 'belong'.

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GIFT DAY AT ST. STEPHEN'S

Mr. & Mrs. F. Whitworth made a welcome return visit from Prestatyn to act as hosts for our Gift Day on Saturday, 20th October, which was well supported, both numerically and financially.

Entertainment was provided by guest artistes, members of the choir and two of our Young People - (Sorry Yvonne & Valerie - your names were omitted from the announcement in the October Messenger.) This was followed by Afternoon Tea and a 'natter.'

The total gifts received amounted to £189.50 for which the church is extremely grateful.

IT'S THAT MAN AGAIN

On the occasion of the Family Church Anniversary at Milnrow, it was nice to welcome back Revd. Glyn Jenkins and Sheila with their family. Graham and Bronwen seemed a bit older and their parents were as young as ever.

It was quite like old times to have Glyn presiding at the morning service over the sort of festival service in which he liked to get involved. The theme on this accasion was "Worshipping Together" and credit must go to Mrs. Dorothy Emmott for her work on the scripting which was derived from a series of lessons in the Junior "Partners in Learning". The Primary Department sang theirn own specially written calypso about "COMING TOGETHER"; the choir sang the anthem 'Jubilate' (Psalm 100) symbolising PRAISE; the juniors in dialogue form gave us a formula for PRAYER, and with the help of the young people, also dramatised OFFERING. Other musical contributions included two items from "Godspell" by the Young People (to say nothing of their own percussion effects), a hymn by the Juniors and itmes by both Beginners and Primary.

At the evening service the choir sang an introit and an anthem.

In all it was a good day, but there was one black spot in that the organ motor failed during the morning service. So far we are still without an organ, and there are some gloomy predictions about the cost of repair.

LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS

A recent article in the "Guardian" by a London Heart specialist pointed out that a survey revealed a lower than average incidence of heart disease among regular worshippers.

Tickets are available for all the following events at St. Stephen's:

Saturday, 10th November .....at 7.30 pm.

C.W.S. (MANCHESTER) BAND

to be held in
ROCH VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Admission: Adults 50p
Children & Senior Citizens 25p.

It is important that this event must be a "sell out". Please help to ensure that it is.

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Tuesday, 13th November.....at 7.30 pm.

C O F F E E E V E N I N G

(With STAINLESS STELL DEMO.)

Admission 10p.

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Tuesday, 20th November.....at 7.30 pm.

GOOD AS NEW FASHION SHOW
by
"C A N C A N"

.....Admission 10p.

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

If you remembered a 'holiday gift' for the "CHRISTMAS AFAYRE", Mr. Alec Rae would be pleased if you would bring it along on Sunday, 25th November.....THANK YOU!

Forthcoming events at St. Stephen's:

SATURDAY, 8th December, in the schoolroom

Afternoon:

"A C H R I S T M A S A F A Y R E"

at 3.0 pm.

STALLS:

Chocolate
Home Foods
Handicrafts
Holiday Gifts
Bulbs & Plants
Pound & Bottle
Toys
Raffle.

Father Christmas also in attendance

Buffet Refreshments at moderate prices will be served in the Butterworth Hall Welfare Centre

Admission: Adults 5p; Children 2½p.

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Evening:

"C H R I S T M A S D A N C E"

From 7.0 pm.

Dancing to the BILL DUNCAN TRIO.

Admission: Adults 25p; Children 15p
(Including Refreshments)

Whist Drives are held each Wednesday at 7.30 pm.

THE PRAYING HANDS

The "Praying Hands" are much, much more than just
a work of art,
They are the "soul's creation" of a deeply thank-
ful heart -
They are a Priceless Masterpiece that love alone
could paint,
And they reveal the selflessness of an unheralded
saint -
These hands so scarred and toilworn, tell the
story of a man
Who sacrificed his talent in accordance with God's
Plan -
For in God's Plan are many things man cannot under-
stand,
But we must trust God's judgment and be guided by
His Hand -
Sometimes He asks us to give up our dreams of
happiness,
Sometimes we must forgo our hopes of fortune and
success -
Not all of us can triumph or rise to heights of
fame,
And many times what should be ours goes to another
name -
But he who makes a sacrifice, so another may
succeed,
Is indeed a true disciple of our blessed Saviour's
creed -
For when we "give ourselves away" in sacrifice
and love,
We are "laying up rich treasures" in God's kingdom
up above -
And hidden in gnarled, toilworn hands is the
truest Art of Living,
Achieved alone by those who've learned the "Victory
of Giving"
For any sacrifice on earth, made in the dear Lord's
name,
Assures the giver of a place in Heaven's Hall of
Fame -

And who can say with certainty where the greatest talent lies,
Or who will be the greatest in Our Heavenly Father's Eyes!

..... Helen Steiner Rice

(From a book of a collection of her poems)

PLAYING FOR KEEPS

Remember when you were a child and played "What do you want to be when you grow up?" This game was recently revived at a party where guests were asked to print on slips of paper what they'd like to be when they really grow up. Here are some insights found in the adult version.

WHEN I GROW UP I'D LIKE TO -

.....allow myself to get angry without feeling guilty.
.....trust the running of the universe to God instead of trying to upstage Him so often.
.....be able to cry when it hurts.
.....say No to my children and stick to it.
.....make peace with death now at 29 so I don't have to waste time on it for the next 40 or 50 years.
.....laugh at myself more often.
.....be able to pray again.
.....refuse demands upon me that destroy my inner peace.
.....be able to give my family less affluence and more of myself.
.....take as good care of my body as I do of my car.
.....tell people the nice things I often think about them but all too seldom say.

....Quotation from Reader's Digest

THANK YOU!

At the church meeting held at Littleborough on the 25th September thanks were expressed to the Revd. R.A.C. West for his help and leadership during his period as interim moderator of our church. The task of interim moderator can not be an easy office to perform satisfactorily, partly because there is a degree of vagueness about what the office entails. More important is the difficulty of being an upholder of correct procedures as well as a friend - something which is very hard to do, unless one has a chance to get to know people well, and by the nature of things this is virtually impossible for an interim moderator. Mr. West has served our two churches very well really, considering the difficulties. His greatest assets have been his friendliness and his genuine concern. He has been a true sheet anchor and kept us on an even keel through an awkward passage. We wish him well and an easier time for a while.

HARVEST HOME

The children of the Primary and Junior Departments contributed a very important part to our services of harvest thanksgiving, when the preacher was Mr. Graham Andrews and the organist Mr. L.W. Greaves.

After the evening service, which was not well attended, gifts of fruit and flowers were delivered to the sick and elderly of the district.

PROMOTION

2nd October was promotion Sunday when the preacher at morning service, Mr. D. Nuttall, presented the prizes.

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FROM KIDS TO KHAKI

Mr. B. Garlick was the speaker at the September meeting of the Men's Fellowship. His talk on Child Care provided plenty of food for thought and provoked a healthy discussion.

On the 18th October a party of 20 visited Fothergill and Harvey's Factory in Littleborough and they were conducted around in two parties by officials of the firm. The visit was most successful, and our thanks are due to the organiser for a most enjoyable evening.
(The reference in the title relates to Fothergill & Harvey's contribution to the Boer War).

NOT ONE BUT TWO SCORE AND TEN

After the plea that there should be at least 30 people at the Cookery Demonstration there were, in fact, more than 50 in attendance. We thus find ourselves in the unusual situation of having to apologise to those who didn't have a very good view of the proceedings. We are sorry that some of you had to jostle and stretch a bit, but on the other hand we are delighted to report that this function raised over £9, and helped to swell the coffers of both the Women's Guild and the Busy Bees.

BUZZGAZTHANKS

We have been asked to thank the Busy Bees for their £10 donation to help us buy a new gas fire.

GRUB STAKES

Mrs. Joan Law once again asks for your help in connection with the Refreshment Stall at the AUTUMN FAIR. She will be very pleased to receive gifts of tinned goods, cakes, etc.

CHURCH DUTIES - MILNROW

FAMILY CHURCH DOOR STEWARDS

Nov.	4th	Mr. D. Fursey	Mrs. J. Duffy
	11th	Counc.J. Harrison	Counc. I. Royle
	18th	Mr. J. Collins	Mrs. A. Collins
	25th	Mr. L. Whittaker	Mrs. F. Rae
Dec.	2nd	Mr. A. Bruckshaw	Mrs. A. Baines

ELDERS ROTA
EVENING DOOR STEWARDS

ORGANIST/PIANIST
EVENING WORSHIP

Nov.	4th	Mr. B. Clough	Mr. D. Logan
	11th	Mr. R. Gillon	Mr. J. Emmott
	18th	Mr. J. Wild	Mrs. C. Hey
	25th	Miss M. Wood	Mr. J. Emmott
Dec.	2nd	Mrs. N. Settle	Mr. D. Logan

COMMUNION ROTA

Nov.	4th	Mr. J. Emmott	Mr. R. Gillon
	18th	Mr. J. Wild	Miss W. Wood (am.)
Dec.	2nd	Mr. K. Hey	Mrs. M. Howarth

FAMILY CHURCH COFFEE ROTA

Nov.	4th	Mrs. H. Buckley	Mrs. E. Smith
	11th	Miss M. Wood	Miss A. Clegg
	18th	Mrs. J. Duffy	Mrs. F. Butterworth
	25th	Mrs. A. Wood	Mrs. A. Collins
Dec.	2nd	Mrs. H. Whitehead	Mrs. Greenhalgh

Persons unable to take their appointments as listed are expected to find a suitable substitute.

OFFERTORIES

		Cash			
		am.	pm.	Envelopes	Total
Sept.	2nd	3.05	—	6.25	9.30
	9th	3.26	86	15.04	19.16½
	16th	4.68	1.08	12.28	18.04
	23rd	9.16	3.05	17.03	29.24
	30th	4.16½	90	9.98	15.04½
		£24.31½	£5.89	£60.58½	£90.79

CHURCH DUTIES - LITTLEBOROUGH

DOOR STEWARDS

Nov.	4th	Mr. E. Holt	Mr. F. Ingham
	11th	Mr. H.N. Hill	Mr. J. Lord 10.30
		Mr. J. Nairn	Mrs. A. Stott 6.00
	18th	Mr. F. Beattie	Mrs. E. Crossley
	25th	Mr. J. Hill	Mr. J. Holt
Dec.	2nd	Mr. F. Ingham	Mr. H.N. Hill

ELDERS COMMUNION ROTA

Nov.	11th	Mr. F. Beattie	Mr. F. Ingham 6.00
	25th	Mr. J. Nairn	Mr. J. Lord 10.30

COFFEE ROTA

Nov.	4th	K. Hill	S. Moss
	11th	L. Butterworth	B. Holt
	18th	A. Merrick	W. Spinks
	25th	J. Hobbs	J. Law
Dec.	2nd	J. Allison	J. Simpson

FAMILY CHURCH READINGS

Nov. 4th "The free family"
Ephesians 3: 14 - 19 Mrs. K.Hill

11th "Paths to peace"
Micah 4: 1 - 4 Mrs. H. Vincent

18th "Free for others"
Matthew 25: 31 -40 Mrs.M.G. Hill

25th "The cost of discipleship"
Mark 10: 17 - 22 Martin Law

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ST. STEPHEN'S DIARY

November

Sun. 4th	11.00 am.	Mr. A. Roberts
	6.00 pm.	Mrs. E. Gillon (Service of Word & Sacrament)
Mon. 5th	6.30 pm.	Pilots & each Monday
Tues. 6th	7.30 pm.	Women's Guild: Mr. John Finch
Wed. 7th	7.30 pm.	Whist Drive & each Wednesday
	7.30 pm.	Elders Meeting
Sat. 10th	7.30 pm.	Band Concert (See page 6) in Roch Valley High School
Sun. 11th	11.00 am.	
	6.00 pm.	Mrs. M. Jeffrey
Tues.13th	7.30 pm.	Coffee Evening (Stainless Steel Demo.)
Wed. 14th	7.30 pm.	Induction Service: Revd. A.V.J. Nash B.A.
Sun. 18th	11.00 am.)	Revd. A.V.J. Nash B.A.
	6.00 pm.)	
Tues.20th	7.30 pm.	"CAN CAN" Fashion Show
Sun. 25th	11.00 am.)	Revd. J.B. Hawksworth (Bolton)
	6.00 pm)	
Tues.27th	7.30 pm.	Junior Church Staff Meeting at 14 Heaton Stfeet
Wed. 28th	8.00 pm.	Church Meeting

December

Sun. 2nd	11.00 am.	Revd. A.V.J. Nash B.A. (Toy Service)
	6.00 pm.	Service of Word & Sacrament
Tues. 4th	7.30 pm.	Women's Guild Christmas Party

FLOWERS FOR THE COMMUNION TABLE

Nov. 4th	Miss A. Memory	
11th	Mrs. M. Howarth	Mrs. M. Mellor
18th	Mrs. M. Brocklehurst	
25th	Mrs. D. Nunn	Mrs. D. Hanson
Dec. 2nd	Mrs. J. Calow	Mrs. Clowes

LITTLEBOROUGH DIARY

November

Sun. 4th	10.30 am.	Mr. J. Collinge
Tues. 6th	7.30 pm.	Women's Guild: Birthday Supper
Wed. 7th	6.45 pm.	Pilots
Sun. 11th	10.30 am.	Mr. J. Lord
	6.00 pm.	Mr. A. Roberts (Communion)
Wed. 14th	7.30 pm.	Induction at Milnrow of: Revd. A.V.J. Nash B.A.
	6.45 pm.	Pilots
Sat. 17th		Autumn Fair
Sun. 18th	10.30 am.	
Wed. 21st	6.45 pm.	Pilots
Sun. 25th	10.30 am.	Revd. A.V.J. Nash B.A. (Communion)
Tues. 27th	7.45 pm.	Church Meeting
Wed. 28th	6.45 pm.	Pilots

December

Sun. 2nd	10.30 am.	Mr. A. Roberts
Tues. 4th	7.30 pm.	Women's Guild: Christmas Supper

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FLOWERS FOR COMMUNION TABLE

November 4th	Mrs. Clayton
11th	Mr. Worthington
18th	Church
25th	Mrs. Mallinson
December 2nd	Mrs. E. Holt

OFFERTORIES

	Cash	Envelopes
Sept. 16th	£1.38½	£ 7.47½
23rd	£8.22	£16.40
30th	£1.91½	£ 9.44½
Oct. 7th	£2.69	£10.36

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CHURCH SECRETARIES:

MILNROW

Mr. Allan Roberts,
54 Beechfield Road,
Milnrow.
Tel: ROCHDALE 42243

LITTLEBOROUGH

Mr. F.G. Simpson,
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Littleborough.
Tel: 061 834 4402
(Business)

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MESSENGER EDITOR:

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Milnrow.
Tel: ROCHDALE 41916

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HOSPITAL VISITORS

MILNROW: Miss M. Wood
Mrs. A. Wood
Mrs. E. Starkie
Miss A. Memory

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